



Henry McMaster
Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Robert M. Hitt III
Secretary

April 14, 2020

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Petition of Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC for an Order Compelling
Dominion Energy South Carolina to Allow the Operation of a 1980 kW AC Solar Array as
Authorized by State Law; Docket No. 2020-63-E

To the Honorable Members of the Commission:

On behalf of the State of South Carolina, I write this letter in support of Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC's ("Bridgestone") demonstrated investment in renewable energy via its Aiken County Solar Array Project. Bridgestone's efforts to supplement a limited portion of its fossil fuel energy supply from Dominion Energy, LLC ("Dominion") with a renewable energy alternative remains stymied. Its solar array system, which was designed and built in full consultation with Dominion and its predecessor SCE&G, is specifically intended as a sole source project for Bridgestone's onsite consumption.

Despite Dominion/SCE&G's previous position to the contrary, its contention that Bridgestone's solar project must remain in the PSC's Interconnection Queue for approval as a commercial electric generation facility is arbitrary and has seemingly no basis in South Carolina law. This is certainly the case when considered within the context of the General Assembly's passage of the South Carolina Energy Freedom Act in 2019, as Bridgestone clearly outlined in its PSC petition.

Bridgestone's solar array, a significant investment long ready to be put into service, effectively, remains forcibly idled by Dominion for well over a year. The General Assembly has set forth policies designed to exclude onsite self-consuming systems from the interconnection queue process, and Bridgestone should be allowed to commence its solar array operations subject to a final safety and security review. As a longstanding South Carolina corporate citizen and job creator, Bridgestone deserves the State's best effort to facilitate a prompt and favorable resolution to this matter.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Hitt III

RMH/km/vw